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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/655,232	09/05/2000	Stewart M. Kume	SMP0179US02	7770

28075 7590 06/01/2005

CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC  
1221 NICOLLET AVENUE  
SUITE 800  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403-2420

EXAMINER

MENDEZ, MANUEL A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3763

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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89/ 655 232

EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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05312005

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Please refer to the attached document.

Manuel Mendez  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3763

Art Unit: 3763

***Response to Amendment***

The reply filed on March 1, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

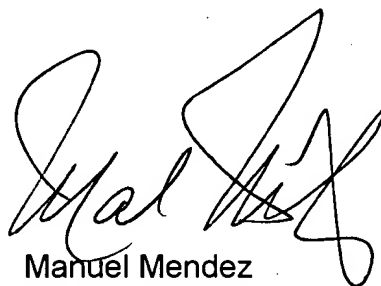
After a careful review of the response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2004, the examiner of record agrees with applicant's conclusions pertaining to the impropriety of the Myler patent in the pending rejections. However, in order to further clarify the record, the examiner respectfully requests comments concerning the merits of ISHIDA et al., and BECKER et al., and whether these references alone could render obvious the claims in question. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manuel Mendez whose telephone number is 703-308-2221. The examiner can normally be reached on 0730-1800 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Brian Casler can be reached on 703-308-3552. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3763

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Mendez', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Manuel Mendez  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3763

MM